

ER: 62-2420/a

DOE REVIEW
COMPLETED

✓ 27 APR 1962

Honorable Glenn T. Seaborg
Chairman
Atomic Energy Commission
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Glenn:

Thank you very much for your letter of April 18 containing your kind invitation for me to attend, as an observer, one of the shots in the forthcoming Dominic series.

I greatly appreciate your thinking of me and I certainly hope that it may be possible for me to join one of the groups. If it is agreeable with you, I would like to plan tentatively to join the fourth group departing about June 16th. I say "tentatively" because there is a possibility that I may have to go out of the country on some of my own business here, but I am hoping that this trip will not interfere with my being in attendance at one of your tests. When I know a little more about my plans, I will be in further touch with you.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

(Signed) JOHN A. McCONE
John A. McCone
Director

O/DCI/[] vgd 24 April 1962)

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UNITED STATES

ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

APR 18 1962

Executive Registry

62-2420

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

Dear John,

As has been customary for past test operations, an official observer program is contemplated for Operation Dominic. It is intended, through this program, to offer to selected individuals having responsibilities in connection with the nuclear weapons field the opportunity to observe one of the series of test detonations. Your attendance as an observer would be welcomed.

The initial shot of the Dominic series, if the series is approved by the President, is scheduled to occur the latter part of April. The first observer group is tentatively scheduled to leave Washington on or about April 23rd; the second group about May 7th; the third about May 14th; and the fourth about June 16th, utilizing U.S. Air Force planes. The aircraft will proceed from Washington to Travis Air Force Base, California, and then to Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, where there will be a short stopover. The flights will then proceed to Christmas Island the day preceding the anticipated detonation. Observers will remain at Christmas Island for a period not to exceed two days. During the two-day period, observers will visit the test area, receive briefings, and observe a nuclear test - unless an unusual and lengthy delay is encountered. The total time for the trip will be approximately six days.

I regret that the shortage of time and the limited number of accommodations available preclude a more extensive observer program. So that we may plan the details of the trips and make effective use of the spaces available, I should appreciate early advice as to whether you will be able to participate as an observer. A member of the AEC's Division of Military Application will contact you with regard to further details.

Sincerely yours,



Glenn T. Seaborg

Honorable John A. McCone
Director
Central Intelligence Agency